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ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

Note verbale dated 12 April 1996 from the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to refer to his note of 28 February 1996. The Permanent Representative hereby wishes to tender the formal application of the Government of South Africa for admission to membership in the Executive Committee of the Programme of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

South Africa attaches great importance to the protection of refugees and the promotion of their rights, and views the role of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) as an important platform for enhancing international cooperation in the protection of refugees. The Government of South Africa believes that it can play an important role in this field as it has a long-standing relationship with UNHCR. As the question of refugees is a major problem in Africa, the Government of South Africa feels it could play a role in solving this problem.

The Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations wishes to request that the present application for membership be considered under the relevant provisions and would be grateful if it could be dealt with as expeditiously as possible.

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